Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEGUCI 02944 092114Z

65

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /056 W ------ 117975

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FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 573
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
USCINCSO

CONFIDENTIAL TEGUCIGALPA 2944

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, HO

SUBJECT: MELGAR-MOLINA MEETING AND MEETING OF CENTRAL AMERICAN PRESIDENTS

REF: TEGUCIGALPA (A) 2868, (B) 2909

1. POLOFF HAD CONVERSATION WITH FONMIN GALVEZ MORNING OF MAY 9. REFTEL A OF JULY 3 REPORTED THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY BELIEVED THERE WOULD BE NO MEETING BETWEEN CHIEF OF STATE MELGAR AND PRESIDENT MOLINA. WHEN QUERIED ABOUT JULY 7 MEETING AT EL POY, FONMIN SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT MELGAR HAD DECIDED NOT TO SEE MOLINA AT END OF LAST WEEK. ACCORDING TO FONMIN, MELGAR CHANGED MIND AND DECIDED TO GO AHEAD WITH MEETING ON BORDER IN ORDER TO DAMPEN ANY SALVADORAN REACTIONS WHICH MIGHT HAVE ARISEN FROM HONDURAN PROTEST TO OAS ABOUT BORDER INCURSIONS.

2. FONMIN KNEW NOTHING ABOUT MEETING EXCEPT WHAT HAD APPEARED IN BRIEF PRESS STATEMENT. HE WAS NOT PREVIOUSLY CONSULTED ABOUT EL POY MEETING NOR HAD HE BEEN INFORMED ABOUT WHAT HAD TAKEN PLACE IN MEETING. HE WAS OBVIOUSLY CHAGRINED ABOUT HIS LACK OF KNOWLEDGE AND EXPRESSED HIS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEGUCI 02944 092114Z

ANNOYANCE TO POLOFF.

3. HE REITERATED THAT THE JULY 10 PRESIDENTS' MEETING IN COSTA RICA WOULD BE CONCERNED WITH ECONOMIC ISSUES AND WOULD NOT FORMALLY TREAT THE HONDURAS-EL SALVADOR DISPUTE. HE REMARKED THAT HE WOULD BE TALKING TO FONMIN

BORGONOVO DURING MEETING AND THAT DISPUTE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE DISCUSSED ON AN INFORMAL BASIS. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE DID NOT EXPECT ANY SIGNIFICANT ADVANCE TO BE MADE DURING MEETING.

4. FONMIN SAID HE WAS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SALVADORAN BORDER INCURSIONS. HE COMMENTED THAT THE HOPED THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN WOULD ESTABLISH A COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE THE HONDURAN CHARGES BUT WAS UNSURE HOW THE COMMITTEE WOULD PROCEED. HE REMARKED THAT, AT LEAST FROM HIS VIEWPOINT, PRESIDENTIAL MEETINGS WERE NOT USEFUL ARENAS FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF THE FRONTIER QUESTION.

5. FONMIN SAID HE WOULD CALL POLOFF WHEN HE RETURNED FROM COSTA RICA TO DISCUSS HIS IMPRESSIONS OF THE MEETING. SANCHEZ

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TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, HO, ES, (MOLINA BARRAZA, ARTURO ARMANDO), (MELGAR CASTRO, JUAN ALBERTO)

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